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SAN DIEGO FACILITY SETS NEW PATTERN FOR APPRENTICE TRAINING.

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THE APPRENTICE TRADES BUILDING AT SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE WAS ERECTED WITH COOPERATIVE FINANCING BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (UNDER THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACT OF 1963), THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL SYSTEM, LABOR UNIONS, AND INDUSTRY. THE STRUCTURE AND SITE COST OF $339,000 WAS PROVIDED FROM FEDERAL AND SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDS, WHILE THE EQUIPMENT, WORTH $105,000, WAS CONTRIBUTED BY LABOR AND INDUSTRY. IN ITS TWELVE SHOPS, IT REPRESENTS 17 TRADES FOR APPRENTICE TRAINING OR JOURNEYMAN RETRAINING AND, SINCE THE OPENING OF THE FACILITY IN SEPTEMBER 1966, IT HAS SERVED AN AVERAGE OF MORE THAN 700 STUDENTS PER WEEK. THE PLANNERS EXPECT THAT THE PROJECT WILL BEGIN A NEW TREND IN APPRENTICESHIP EDUCATION. THIS ARTICLE IS PUBLISHED IN "AMERICAN VOCATIONAL JOURNAL," VOLUME 41, NUMBER 1, JANUARY 1966. (HH)

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Vocational and Technical Education, U.S. Office of Education

SAN DIEGO FACILITIES: NEW PATTERN FOR APPRENTICE TRAINING

Federal funds, an educator's vision, and industry and labor working together add up to a new apprenticeship trades building for Mesa College

One personality looms large in the story of the Mesa College apprenticeship school—Joseph H. Stephenson, director of vocational education at San Diego. He is shown here (on the right) as he poses with Walter M. Arnold during dedication ceremonies on October 18.

In: American Vocational Journal, 41/16-19, January, 1966.

JC 670942

LOCATED ON THE CAMPUS of San Diego Mesa College is a new apprenticeship trades building that may well set a national pattern for apprenticeship training in this day of rapid technological change, knowledge explosion and space race. It could be the first step in the most far-reaching movement that apprenticeship has known.

The result of apprentice-educator pioneering in California, this new school not only utilizes the most up-to-date equipment to provide ongoing apprenticeship programs in 17 different trades, but it also offers journeymen the facilities for the continuous retraining that the times demand.

Opened in September of this year and dedicated on October 16, it is already showing signs of success. It is viewed by journeymen, management, labor unions, educators, and public officials in all parts of the nation as a major step in the advancement of apprenticeship programs and as a resource to help meet present and future demands for skilled labor.

Monument to a New Era

Because of its many "firsts," this modern and well-equipped trades building of precast concrete and tilt-up construction will inevitably stand as a monument to a new era in apprenticeship training. It is the first apprenticeship building to be constructed with federal funds granted under the provisions of the Vocational Education Act of 1963. It is also the first to be constructed through joint efforts of school and vocational officials, labor unions and business and industrial management; and it is the first to have laboratories and shops equipped by capital invested by labor unions and management.

Unique in many ways, it has already given training to an average of more than 700 journeymen and/or apprentices a week.

California has long been a progressive state in encouraging and conducting apprenticeship and vocational and technical training programs. Furthermore, industrial management and labor unions in the state have enjoyed a cooperative working relationship for many years. In California it is not unusual for labor and management to sit down together when future interests of the state are involved. In this instance, their cooperation resulted in a joint contribution of $105,000 for equipment, over and above the cost of the building and site.

Equipped for Modern Teaching Methods

As a consequence, the new school boasts such specialized equipment as four microwelders (at a total cost of $5,000), barber chairs at $750 each, a York air-conditioning trainer valued at $1,000, and numerous audio and visual aids that will permit the school to employ the most modern teaching methods.

The PIPE Trades alone, through their local and international fund, spent $50,000 on equipment, and smaller trade unions followed suit with proportional amounts.

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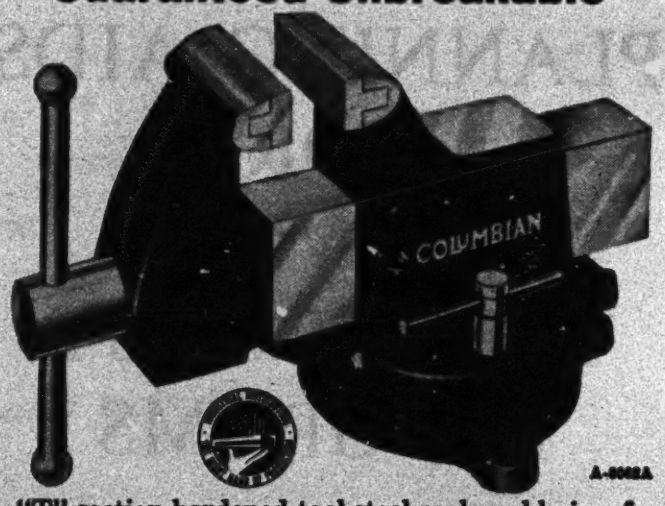

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604M2	504M2	4	6	3⅝
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The cost of the structure and site, exclusive of equipment, was $339,000. Of this total, $157,000 came from federal funds, under the Vocational Education Act of 1963; state funds provided $88,000, and the remainder, $94,000, came from the San Diego Unified School System.

The building occupies 40,380 square feet of space. Its design complements that of other Mesa College buildings, but it is distinguished by concrete slabs outside each of the 12 shops which allow apprentices to take advantage of the San Diego climate to work outdoors.

Seventeen Trades Represented

All trade unions not otherwise adequately housed are utilizing this institution. At present 17 trades are represented in classes in the 12 shops.

Success and interest have characterized apprenticeship programs in San Diego since 1937, when classes in carpentry, meat cutting, painting, and plumbing began. Because of the success of those first classes, local personnel were invited to work with state leaders in the implementation of the Shelley-Maloney Apprenticeship Labor Standards Act of 1939.

Eighteen years ago, Joseph H. Stephenson, a dedicated vocational educator, now director of vocational education for the San Diego Unified School System, conceived the idea of a single apprenticeship building. To foster and promote his idea of apprenticeship training, a group of interested persons organized the San Diego General Apprenticeship Committee in 1954. The committee encouraged the San Diego Unified School System to provide shop facilities and urged local taxpayers to support the program. Mr. Stephenson persevered and spearheaded his project throughout the years, and with

WELDING SHOP in San Diego's new apprenticeship trades school. Industry furnished the equipment and benches.

the passage of the Vocational Education Act of 1963, saw the first breakthrough.

Since then, the apprenticeship program has made continual progress. Now working with the San Diego Junior Colleges are 27 joint apprenticeship committees consisting of 226 members representing labor and management in these areas: automotive, barbering, bricklaying, carpentry, cement masonry, drywall, electrical, floor covering, glazing, ironworking, lathing, machine shop, meat cutting, mill cabinet, painting, plastering, plumbing, refrigeration, roofing, sheet metal, sign painting, sound, steamfitting, surveying, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, San Diego Civil Service, and General Dynamics/Convair.

During the years prior to the construction of the new building—while many attempts to acquire satisfactory quarters were being made—San Diego faced the problem that has existed in apprenticeship training throughout the nation. Classes were conducted in old buildings, or wherever space was available. Now San Diego has come up with a workable plan that could well set the pace for other apprentice training programs.

The program conducted in the San Diego school is intended primarily for apprentices but it also serves journeymen. This is extremely important and has already proved its value in projects such as Sea World, which required workmen skilled in the use of glass pipe; the Salk Laboratories, where a special skill technique was necessary; and in the Atomic Power Plant, where the handling of new and exotic materials required specialized training.

The new school at Mesa College exemplifies the trends we will see in the future—an emphasis on continuous retraining and on the need to encourage people of all ages to avail themselves of the numerous educational and training opportunities that are forthcoming.

We in the U.S. Office of Education are proud of the apprenticeship trades building in San Diego. We feel that the investment on the part of the federal government, the community, the labor unions, and industrial management will multiply in the interests of each and in the interest of an improved society.

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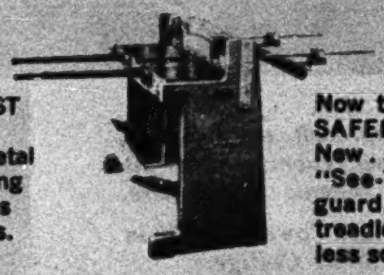

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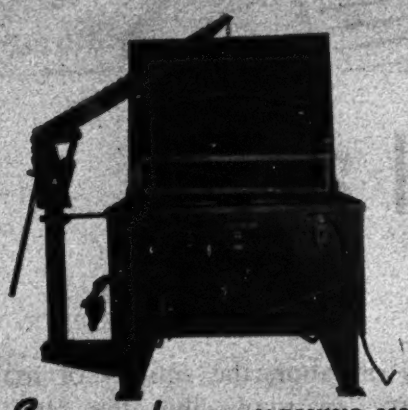

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COVER

New designs for learning space, [illegible] equipment to teach skills as they are actually used in the world of work, the right materials to switch that [illegible]ing—these are facilities required by concepts of vocational education. [illegible] as some of our stories this month illustrate, the facilities sometimes inspire the program. Photo, courtesy of the American Association of Junior Col[illegible]

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